GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4521
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2008
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR RURAL TOURISM
Vallabbhaneni Shri Balashowry

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provides Central Financial Assistance to the State Governments/Union Territories for infrastructure development in the rural sites to promote tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the activities in the rural sites supported through the Government of India and United Nation's Development Programme Endogenous Tourism Project and the Capacity Building for Service Providers Scheme of the Ministry; and

(d) the achievements made there under?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a), (b), (c) & (d) : Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to the State Governments/Union Territories for infrastructure development in rural sites having tourism potential under the scheme of Product/ Infrastructure Development for Destinations & Circuits. Community participation and capacity building including skill upgradation in such rural sites are being supported through Government of India − United Nations Development Programme Endogenous Tourism Projects and Capacity Building for Service Providers Scheme of the Ministry. The objective is to showcase rural life, art, culture and heritage at rural locations and in villages. Artisans from several rural tourism sites have showcased their products through participation in fairs and festivals such as Deepawali Deep Utsav at Delhi Haat, Indian International Trade Fair at Pragati Maidan, Toshali Mega Craft Mela and Shopping Festival, Bhubaneswar etc. Both domestic and international tourists have already started visiting rural tourism sites.